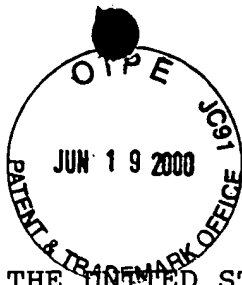


GP 2854

684.2742



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#10 Election
T. Yung
6-21-00

In re Application of:)
NORIBUMI KOITABASHI, ET AL.) : Examiner: L. Grohusky
Appln. No.: 09/131,744) : Group Art Unit: 2854
Filed: August 10, 1998) :
For: A RECORDING METHOD) June 19, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND
ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENTS

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Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action dated May 19, 2000 in the above-identified application, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Group I (Claims 1-7 and 9/1), drawn to a recording method.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicants elect Species 1 (Figs. 1-4), with traverse. The Examiner has indicated that all claims are generic.

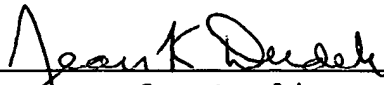
It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims could be searched by one Examiner without undue effort. It is also respectfully submitted that it is not mandatory to make a restriction requirement or election of species requirement in every possible situation.

It is believed that if one Examiner acts on all of the claims of the present application at one time, overall examining time will be less than if two or more Examiners are involved. It is also earnestly believed that the examination of all of the claims at one time by one examiner in the present application will best ensure uniform prosecution quality. Therefore, in the interest of prosecution economy of time and quality for both the Office and Applicants, it is respectfully submitted that withdrawal of the restriction requirement and election of species requirement in this application and examination of all pending claims on their merits are appropriate and such action is respectfully solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010.

All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 30,938

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